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Much attention is given to collecting and keeping material alive in the laboratory. KLEBS's method of securing reproductive phases in algae and fungi is presented in a practical manner. Specific directions are given for making such preparations as are needed by teachers and by those who wish to get a comprehensive view of the plant kingdom from the lowest to the highest forms. The book will be useful to those who wish to keep in touch with modern microtechnique.—W. J. G. LAND.

#### Bibliographical index of North American fungi.

THE compilation of a bibliographical index of North American fungi by FARLOW<sup>5</sup> is one of the most serviceable tasks ever undertaken in the interests of American systematic mycology, and the publication of it by the Carnegie Institution one of its best contributions to the promotion of botany. The work is the outgrowth of an effort to bring together references to all North American species in the form of a card catalogue. This was begun in 1874, at a time when there was no complete record of the species known from North America. Within a few years of its inception Mr. A. B. SEYMOUR was entrusted with the details of this herculean labor, under Dr. Farlow's direction, and his painstaking fidelity is worthy of recognition.

It is the aim of the work to include all references having any bearing on the taxonomy of fungi occurring in countries north of the Isthmus of Panama, the scope of the original plan (which was restricted to the region north of Mexico) having been greatly extended, on account of the close connection of species from our southern border with those of Mexico, Central America, and the East Indies. References to works of purely morphological, cytological, and physiological interest have been excluded; so have purely popular accounts, unless they were of use in giving distribution of the species or in furnishing good illustrations. In nomenclature the work is conservative. The principle of adopting the oldest specific name has been generally followed. Where the vagueness of older descriptions has made it uncertain to what species they applied the writers have had no scruples in rejecting the older names.

The index itself is arranged alphabetically. The names are printed in bold-face type, synonyms and cross references being in italics. The citations, arranged in chronological order under each name, follow the form adopted by the Madison Botanical Congress in 1893 and by Section G, A.A.A.S. in 1894. In many cases of confused synonymy, critical examinations were made of authentic specimens and the related literature. Notes of interest obtained thus are added under the species in question. The present part, which is part I of the first volume, includes names from *Abrothallus* to *Badhamia*.—H. HASSELBRING.

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<sup>5</sup> FARLOW, W. G., Bibliographical index of North American fungi. Vol. I, part 1. 8vo. pp. xxxv+312. Washington: Carnegie Institution. 1905.